**DISTANCE SCOUTING PROGRAMME 20**

**(31 JULY 2020)**

**“THE N\*S\*A – MISSION 1”**

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| **You have until 19h00 on Friday 31 July 2020 to complete this programme. Follow the instructions carefully and you will be marked “present” for the programme, earn points for your patrol and hopefully compete some advancement and prepare for upcoming programmes and camps. More importantly, HAVE FUN!!!** |

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| **Equipment required for programme:**   * A cellphone with internet access and WhatsApp access to your patrol WhatsApp Group. * A phone or camera with the ability to take a video. * Marshmellows, scizzors, an uninflated balloon, a tube (you an make your own), glue and / or elastic bands. * Your personal journal |

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| **The PL should, as always, designate who is doing what and, if nobody is doing an item (such as posting a training video) do this item so that the patrol can complete the programme.** |

Last week you undertook intensive training as a N\*S\*A secret agent. Your observation skills and physical skills were honed to a perfection at the top-secret training base at Gilwell.

Did you complete the tour of Gilwell successfully? Here are the answers to the various questions:

1. What colour is the fleur-de-lis on the gate at the entrance to Gilwell? **Yellow**
2. How many stars are painted on the entrance to the YMCA Hall? **3**
3. What season do you think it was when these photos were taken? Motivate your answer. **Autumn or winter** (plenty of leaves on the ground, many trees without leaves)
4. What is written on the front lawn using bricks? **Gilwell**
5. Assume that the entrance to the museum faces north. What time of day were the photos taken? (Morning, noon, afternoon, sunset etc). Motivate your answer. **Afternoon** – you can work out that the sun is in the west and has not set.
6. Visit the museum. BP has some information from you. When was the lease on Gilwell first obtained? **1 Jul 1922**
7. Explore the grounds. Somewhere you will find an old railway coach that used to belong to BP. What town’s name is written on the sign next to the coach? **Mafikeng**
8. How many benches are in the chapel? **17**
9. Visit the bundus (it is several screens). What colour is the box below the spotlights? **Blue**
10. What colour have the top-most poles been painted in the George Angus shed? **Red**

**INSPECTION:**

Your training is at an end and your passing-out parade is about to take place. Spies don’t care much for uniforms, but secret gadgets and the tools of the trade are of vital importance. You never know when an item will come in useful.

Put together a “be prepared” kit small enough to fit into your uniform pocket with anything you might need on you adventure. Post a picture of your kit on your patrol WhatsApp Group.

**GAME:**

You now have a “Be Prepared” kit, but no spy is complete without their very own weapon. You will need the following to make your very own marshmellow gun:

* A balloon (not inflated)
* A tube (an old toilet roll is fine, or you can make your own tube out of card or from a plastic cup)
* Marshmellows
* Glue and / or elastic bands
* Scizzors

Tie a knot in the end of the balloon (do not blow it up first). Then cut the other end of the balloon off using the scizzors (this is the end that would normally inflate).

Put the balloon over the one end of your tube. Secure it using the glue and / or elastic bands.

You are now ready to shoot your marshmellows. Put a marshmellow in the tube, pull back on the knot on the balloon and when you let go the marshmellow should shoot out.

See how far you can shoot a marshmellow and post this on your patrol WhatsApp Group. Shoot a marshmellow into the air and catch it with your mouth. Then post a photo or a video of yourself doing this on your patrol WhatsApp group.

**MULTI-LINGUAL**

Every good spy can speak several languages and before you embark on your first mission you need to show some sort of progress towards mastering another language.

**Do one of the following:**

1. Sign up for a language course on Duolingo ([duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)) and earn your first ten lingots. Duolingo is a free language learning application that offers dozens of language courses ranging from Swahili to Vietnamese and everything in-between (including my personal favourites, Kingon and High Valyrian). You can form groups with friends to help learn a language together. Why not try learn a language as a patrol? Post a picture of your screen on your patrol WhatsApp Group showing your ten lingots once you have earned them. OR

**Do you enjoy other languages? Why not look at completing your Linguist Badge? The requirements can be found at:**

<https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Linguist_Scout_Interest_Badge&mobileaction=toggle_view_desktop>

1. Pick a language you have never learned before and find out how to say the following words in the language of your choice. Post your translations on your patrol WhatsApp Group:
2. Child
3. Scout
4. Read
5. Help
6. Dog
7. Dress
8. Mother
9. Fire
10. Camp
11. Beautiful

**CRACK THE CODE:**

Your training is complete and you have been thrown straight into the fray. One of the N\*S\*A’s best agents recently disappeared. He has protected his research on his computer behind a series of passwords and other protection measures. You must get access his computer to gather clues as to his whereabouts and to find out what he discovered that led to his disappearance.

**If you enjoy this part of the programme, consider doing your Signaller Badge. The requirements can be found at:** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Signaller_Scout_Interest_Badge>

On his desk-pad you find the following doodles. What could it mean? Is it a clue? Decipher the doodles and follow any instructions provided to you. Good luck!

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**RIDDLE ME THIS:**

While you are trying to work out what the doodles mean, you switch on the computer. The screen flashes and two identical smiling faces appear, one marked “A” and the other “B”. The faces smile and a voice comes out the speaker:

“Welcome. There are two possible passwords: “PASSWORD” and “KEYWORD”. The one will erase everything on the computer’s memory, the other will allow you to unlock one of the security systems on this computer. Every time this computer restarts the computer will chose one of these passwords at random to be the correct password.

The Terrible Twins before you are the only ones that know which password is correct. Every time the computer restarts the computer randomly allocates them a letter: “A” or “B”. One twin always tells the truth, the other always tells a lie. You may ask one of the twins one question, and only one question, before you must enter the password. Ask your one question now.

A cursor flashes on a text box underneath the twins’ faces. What question do you ask to discover which password is correct? Which twin do you ask? Post your answer on your patrol Whatsapp Group.

**BLOGS:**

Send in a report to the N\*S\*A on your progress in locating the missing agent by either posting an entry in your personal log on this week’s activities or by updating your patrol blog.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Congratulations to Jason Bailie on completing his Entertainer Badge.
* Entries for Kim Shield are now open. Kim Shield will be taking place on 12 September 2020. Places are filling up fast, so let your PL know if you are keen on taking place so that your patrol can enter.
* A massive congratulations to those of you who have successfully completed the “Hike to Mafikeng” Challenge. Badges will be available after the Lockdown is lifted.
* Applications for the National Senior Scout Adventure are now open. If you are going to be 15 or older please message your PL that you want to take part and register at <https://cederbergadventure.co.za/>. **DO NOT PAY A DEPOSIT YET!!!**
* A reminder that SCOUTS South Africa has made branded facemasks available at a cost of R40,00 per mask, excluding delivery. Visit the online scout shop at <https://shop.scouts.org.za/> to place your order.
* The Northrand Scout District is running a competition for all NORTHRAND Scouts. The Northrand Scout that earns the most interest and/or scoutcraft badges during the lockdown will win a prize worth roughly R150,00. Can you be the best in the district and scoop the prize?

SCOUTS South Africa has developed a Covid-19 awareness badge. Are you up to the challenge? Visit <https://www.scouts.org.za/2020/05/26/covid-19-awareness-badge/> for information on the requirements.

* This Distance Scouting Programme is an experiment. We would appreciate constructive feedback on the programme. Please send this to [andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za](mailto:andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za).

**TROOP DISMISSED!**